Concessions on imports from under developed countries

†3884. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
DR. MURLIMANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

whether it is a fact that Government are considering a proposal for allowing concession on import from 50 under developed countries of the world;

if so, the names of these countries with amount of import from and export to these countries in 2004-05,2005-06; and

whether Government has estimated the revenue losses from implementation of the said proposal; if so, average annual loss thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The Prime Minister announced a Duty Free Tariff Preference (DFTP) Scheme for Least Developed Countries (LDCs) on the occasion of the India Africa Forum Summit on 8 April, 2008 in New Delhi. Under the Scheme India shall unilaterally provide preferential market access on 94% of its tariff lines for exports from all the LDCs.

The names of the preference receiving countries and their imports from and exports to India is enclosed as a statement *(see* below).

The revenue loss from the Scheme can only be assessed after its implementation given the supply side constraints of the beneficiary LDCs; the growth rate in imports and its casual link with the Scheme. However, based on a normal import growth rate of 10% from LDCs not covered under any other tariff preferences, and an import growth rate of 30% after the implementation of the scheme, it is estimated that there are no revenue losses from the implementation of the DFTP Scheme for LDCs.

Statement

Names of preference receiving countries and their imports from and export to India

LDCs	2004-05		2005-06		2006-07	
(In $ million)	Export	Import	Export	Import	Export	Import
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Afghanistan	165.4	47.0	142.7	58.4	181.6	34.5
Angola	72.9	0.9	151.7	3.3	2002	2453
Bangladesh	1631.1	59.4	1664.4	127.0	16273	228.1
Benin	47.1	79.8	96.6	77.5	151.4	80.6
Bhutan	84.6	71.0	992	88.8	58.6	1413
Burkina Faso	21.1	8.4	19.9	2.7	14.8	5.6
Burundi	*12*	0.4	10.7	0.0	7.9	0.0
Cambodia	18.1	02	242	0.8	51.6	1.6
Central African Republ ic	0.9	0.3	1.4	0.4	2.3	0.4

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chad	3.5	1.6	42	0.1	28.1	02
Comoros	2.4	02	5.1	3.9	15.5	6.9
Djibouti	128.6	3.1	230.4	3.4	307.4	2.1
DR of Congo	2.8	2.5	2.0	142	12	17.0
East Timor	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.5	0.6
Equatorial Guinea	3.8	0.7	6.4	0.1	4.8	0.1
Eritrea	NA	NA	*82*	1.0	6.6	0.3
Ethopia	55.5	10.3	74.7	•8.5	114.5	11.3
Gambia	14.9	11.5	16.8	12.9	27.5	17.9
Guinea	513	27.6	52.3	22.3	80.0	342.0
Guinea-Bissau	0.9	70.9	0.7	96.1	0.7	49.7
Haiti	102	1.0	16.3	0.3	21.6	1.1
Kiribati	0.4	0.0	0.1	0.0	3.4	0.0
Lao PDR	2.7	0.1	5.5	0.1	2.4	0.4
Lesotho	18.4	0.0	12.8	0.0	5.4	0.0
Liberia	18.3	45.0	212	126.7	24.1	47.1
Madagascar	36.1	8.0	42.7	16.4	44.8	192
Malawi	583	5.1	43.6	1.8	42.6	5.0
Maldives	47.6	0.6	67.6	2.0	68.6	3.1'
Mali	21.7	13.1	27.9	2.6	63.6	2.8
Mauritania	24.7	1.3	45.1	1.0	21.7	0.6
Mozambique	81.3	41.6	127.5	50.6	190.9	28.3
Myanmar	1132	405.9	110.7	526.0	139.1	7772
Nepal	743.5	345.8	860.0	379.9	930.7	305.4
Niger	403	0.7	223	0.8	14.1	5.4
Rwanda	8.4	0.7	10.6	0.0	13.7	1.6
Samoa	03	0.0	0.4	0.1	02	1.1
Sao Tome & Principe	0.1	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.3	0.0
Senegal	692	1812	93.5	292.6	152.1	72.7
Sierra Leone	13.1	2.3	18.5	3.6	20.5	2.3
Solomon Islands	0.3	03	02	2.8	0.3	2.0
Somalia	47.1	7.5	39.7	11.6	86.0	18.1
Sudan	317.5	22.9	294.7	32.7	402.8	89.1
Tanzania	173.9	131.7	243.5	119.8	288.4	98.0
Togo	263.4	46.0	91.1	793	121.8	75.9

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Tuvalu	02	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0
Uganda	76.0	6.6	92.7	2.8	107.1	4.7
Vanuatu	1.7	02	1.8	48.1	22	92
Yemen	246.4	30.8	278.8	10.0	1185.0	2009.3
Zambia	50.4	23.0	66.5	40.6	108.1	862

Source: DGCIS data

Recommendations of ARC on SEZs

3885. SHRI HARISH RAWAT:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANABHART1A:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

whether the Administrative Reforms Commission (ARC) has favoured sweeping changes in the policy regarding the setting up of SEZs in the country;

if so. the details thereof;

whether Government on the basis of recommendations of ARC propose to take further action in this regard; and.

if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) Certain suggestions which *inter alia* include the need for impetus to land reform; speedy implementation of national policy on rehabilitation; avoidance of prime agriculture land for SEZs; locations of SEZ in backward areas; encouragement to SEZs promoted by farmers; restriction on land for non-processirfg areas in SEZs; fiscal incentives to SEZs etc. have been made by the Second Administrative Reforms Commission; in its Seventh Report on 'Capacity Building for Conflict Resolution'. These are currently under examination.

CAG findings in functioning of SEZs

3886. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

whether CAG has recently found several flaws in the functioning of SEZs of the country as reported in the media;

if so, the details thereof;

whether on the basis of CAG recommendations, the Union Government proposes to take any corrective steps and to remove various flaws in the functioning of the SEZs; and

if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The Report of the